

# God of Creation and Covenant

## Genesis 1:1-2 Small Group Questions

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7-13, 2025

- (1) Read Genesis 1:1-5.
  - (a) Pastor Rick suggested that these verses together constitute the first day of creation. Have you understood these verses this way, or have you taken verse 1 (and maybe verse 2) as an introduction that is separate from the first day? How come?
  - (b) Why is it important for us to see verse 1 as the absolute beginning of all that is not God?
  - (c) What do we lose if we see verse 1 as only picking up at the point at which God began to form earth for man?
  - (d) How do Proverbs 8:22-24, Hebrews 11:1-3, and Colossians 1:16 inform our convictions about what's going on in this Text?
- (2) What viewpoints have you encountered from orthodox, Bible-trusting theologians, pastors, and saints regarding the days of creation? As of right now, which interpretational "glasses" are you wearing as you make sense of Genesis 1? (In other words, is there one position that makes the most sense to you and that has been persuasive?) How come?
- (3) Many respected interpreters over the past two centuries have theorized that there is a long gap of time between verses 1 and 2.
  - (a) What reasons were given in the sermon to suggest that this is not a view to which the Text lends natural support?
  - (b) What do you think about those reasons, and ultimately, do you think it matters? How come?
  - (c) What theological benefit is there for holding to a long gap of time between verses 1 and 2?
- (4) Thinking back a couple of weeks to the way that God's covenant faithfulness drives the story of Genesis (and all of history) forward, how do we see God begin to express this covenant intention toward His people even in Genesis 1:2? (Some fodder from other Scripture... Titus 1:1-3; John 1:1ff.)
- (5) Even if Moses is not writing with the intention of a fully formed doctrine of the Trinity, how do we see one God in three Persons present in the miracles of creation, specifically verses 1-2? Bring in other Scripture as you're able to inform your answer.
- (6) What are the three P's that we see in the activity of the Spirit in verse 2? How do these serve as a tangible comfort in times of chaos, darkness, and trial in your life? How can you lay hold of these truths more personally? (Remember our working definition of *theology* from the beginning of our time in Matthew... *Theology is all of God's Word transforming all of life* – which would include Genesis 1:1-2!)